

# **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MANAGING DISCUSSION THREADS BASED ON RATINGS**

## **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

System and method for removing threads from discussion groups based on ratings of the individual posts within the thread. If a user takes the time to rate a post positively, then the post (and the thread) is considered to be useful to the entire community and should not be deleted. To rate the post, a window is displayed to the user whenever the post is open and queries the user whether the post is useful. A positive rating resets a delete date associated with the post. If there is not positive rating of a post, the thread may be considered useful if the originator of a post marks the post as being answered, in which case the delete clock is reset. If however, none of the posts within the thread are rated positively, then the thread is considered not be useful and deleted.